

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 – 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (previously presented) A method of treatment of neurodermatitis comprising topical application of a dermatological preparation comprising an osmolyte or a pharmacologically compatible salt thereof to a patient in need of such treatment, wherein the osmolyte is ectoine or hydroxyectoine or a pharmacologically compatible salt thereof.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the dermatological preparation is a tincture, lotion, O/W emulsion, W/O emulsion, cream, ointment or a hydrogel or spray comprising auxiliary substances.

Claim 15 (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the dermatological preparation is an ointment, cream or lotion, comprising liposomes containing the osmolyte.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the dermatological preparation is an ointment, cream or lotion containing the osmolyte liposomally capsuled.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the dermatological preparation contains additional active agents.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the dermatological preparation contains an active agent selected from analgetics, antiphlogistics, antipruritic substances, antibiotics, fungistats and fungicides.

Claim 19 (currently amended) The method of claim 17 or 18, wherein the additional active agent is a ~~glucocorticoid~~ or a calcineurin inhibitor.

Claim 20 (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the dermatological preparation consisting essentially of ectoine or hydroxyectoine or a pharmacologically compatible salt thereof.

Claim 21 (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the dermatological preparation comprises of ectoine or hydroxyectoine or a pharmacologically compatible salt thereof in the absence of a glucocorticoid.